

REMARKS

Applicants have amended Claims 12 and 19 and therefore, upon entry of this amendment, Claims 1, 5-23, and 28 are pending, with Claims 1 and 5-18 indicated to be in proper form for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of the application and a timely Notice of Allowance.

Claims 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being obvious over Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) to Shinpo Ichihiro [herein referred to as "Shinpo"] in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,589,901 to Means [herein referred to as "Means"] and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,717,460 to Tsuruta et al. [herein referred to as "Tsuruta"]

Shinpo discloses a video camera with an adapter for mechanically attaching a camera so that a still photo may be taken and stored on the camera at the same time and in the same direction as the video camera that is separately recording video images. Thus, it should be understood that Shinpo simply discloses a mechanical coupling of two cameras, which continue to operate independent of one another.

Means simply discloses an infrared camera mounted on a helicopter and Tsuruta simply discloses a camera having a hot

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shoe socket to power a lighting apparatus, which is the known intended purpose for the hot shoe socket.

Consequently, Shinpo combined with Means and Tsuruta fail to teach or suggest "an interface device that mechanically and electrically connects said camera to said camcorder such that the camcorder selectively records the video images in the non-visible electromagnetic spectrum from the camera or the video images in the visible electromagnetic spectrum of the camcorder, with power provided from the camcorder to the camera via the hot shoe" as recited in Claim 19.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 19 patentably distinguishes over Shinpo in view of Means and Tsuruta and that dependent claim 20 is also distinguishable for at least the same reasons. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of Claims 19 and 20 be withdrawn.

Claims 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Shinpo in view of Means and Tsuruta and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,864,911 to Zhang et al. [herein referred to as "Zhang"].

Zhang discloses the use of a communication protocol to connect two digital cameras. However, Zhang fails to cure the deficiencies noted above for Shinpo, Means, and Tsuruta with

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respect to Claim 19. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 19 patentably distinguishes over Shinpo in view of Means and Tsuruta and Zhang and that dependent Claims 21-23 are also distinguishable for at least the same reasons. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of Claims 21-23 be withdrawn.

Applicants have amended Claim 12 to refine the grammar and claim form. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1, 5-23, and 28 are in proper form for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested and a timely Notice of Allowance is solicited.

If there are any questions regarding any aspect of the application, please call the undersigned at (949) 752-7040.

Certificate of Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, Fax No. 571-273-8300 on the date stated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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